

Message Text

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42

ORIGIN AID-40

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TO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

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AIDAC

E.O. 11652 N/A

SUBJECT: AGRARIAN REFORM PROP

REFERENCES: (A) MANILA 8102; (B) STATE 136554

1. AS INDICATED REF. B, AID/W PLANS REVIEW AGRARIAN REFORM
PROP JULY 25.

2. TO SUPPLEMENT USEFUL INFORMATION ALREADY IN PROP AND
THEREBY ASSIST PROP REVIEW, REQUEST MISSION COMMENTS RE
FOLLOWING:

(A) WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING LATEST INFORMATION ON
STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ANNOUNCED GOP LAND REFORM.

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FOR EXAMPLE, WHAT IS STATUS GOP PLANS TO START REDISTRIBUT-

ING LAND FROM HOLDINGS OF LESS THAN 50 HECTARES? HAS GOP MADE FURTHER PROGRESS TOWARD ISSUING IMPLEMENTATION REGULATIONS ON LAND TRANSFERS? HAVE LAND-OWNER COMPENSATION PLACE IN TWO PILOT PROVINCES OF NUEVA ECIJA AND CAMARINES SUR RELATING TO LAND TRANSFER AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS? WHAT HAS BEEN RESULT OF MOST RECENT PROSTERMAN/TAYLOR VISIT?

(B) FOR PURPOSES LATER REVIEWS/EVALUATION PROJECT, PLEASE ADVISE TIME FRAME FOR TARGETS LISTED IN SERIES OF ACTIVITIES OUTLINED PP. 23-24 ANNEX A TO PROP.

(C) PROP SUMMARY STATEMENT AND NARRATIVE STATE CONTRACT RESEARCH TECHNICIAN WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM, AGRARIAN REFORM INSTITUTE AND PHILIPPINE COUNCIL ON AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH. WE AGREE THIS GROUP OF INSTITUTIONS APPROPRIATE COUNTERPARTS AND ASSUME RESEARCHER WILL DEVELOP JOINTLY WITH THEM PLAN TO CONDUCT RESEARCH DIRECTLY RELATED TO AGRARIAN REFORM POLICY AND OPERATIONAL NEEDS. AS SUCH, WE BELIEVE FIRST PRIORITY SHOULD BE DIRECTED AT CONDITIONS AND PROBLEMS PERTINENT TO NEW AMORTITIZING LAND OWNERS AND LANDLORDS AFFECTED BY LAND TRANSFER AND OTHER DATA REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING LAND TRANSFER PROCESS. ALSO RECEIVING HIGH PRIORITY SHOULD BE EVALUATION OF PILOT PROVINCE EFFORTS WITH EMPHASIS ON THEIR RELATION TO NEW LAND OWNER-PURCHASERS. FOREGOING DESCRIPTION IS INTENDED TO SPECIFY PRIORITY RESEARCH AREAS RELATED TO LAND TRANSFER AND PILOT SUPPORT SYSTEMS ASPECTS OF AGRARIAN REFORM IN ORDER TO OBTAIN MAXIMUM BENEFITS OF RESEARCH INPUTS UNDER THIS PROJECT. LARGER AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS, SUCH AS THOSE CONCERNING PRODUCTION AND CREDIT, ARE CERTAINLY RELEVANT TO SOME DEGREE, BUT SHOULD NOT BE AREA OF RESEARCH EMPHASIS UNDER AGRARIAN REFORM PROJECT.

(D) RE SUPPORT SYSTEMS, REQUEST FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT GOP STRATEGY OR WORK PLAN FOR DEVELOPING SUPPORT SYSTEMS IN TWO PILOT PROVINCES. WE HAVE NOTED COMMENTS PP. 5-6 PROP, BUT REQUEST FURTHER DETAILS RE HOW FINDINGS IN PILOT AREAS WILL BE APPLIED TO NATIONWIDE PROGRAM. ALSO REQUEST INFORMATION IN MORE SPECIFIC TERMS THAN MENTIONED PP. 11-12 PROP ABOUT HOW AID COOPERATIVE SYSTEMS AND SMALL FARMER ORGANIZATION ADVISORS WILL PARTICIPATE IN DEVELOPING

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INNOVATIVE SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR TESTING AND APPLICATION ELSEWHERE. SINCE RURAL CREDIT WILL BE RELATED TO FUNCTIONS FARMER COOPERATIVES, WE ASSUME THESE AID TECHNICIANS WILL ALSO PROVIDE SOME ADVICE ON RURAL CREDIT UNDER THIS PROJECT. RECOGNIZING VARIOUS PHILIPPINE AGENCIES/INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED NUMEROUS ASPECTS AGRARIAN REFORM, PLEASE ADVISE HOW RELATED PROJECT ACTIVITIES WILL BE COORDINATED AMONG THESE DIFFERENT PHILIPPINE OFFICES.

(E) EXCEPT FOR ITEMS RELATED TO PARCELLARY SKETCHING,
REQUEST MORE INFORMATION RE PURPOSE OF PLANNED COMMODITIES
AND HOW RELATED TO PROJECT OUTPUTS.

3. PLEASE ADVISE PRIORITY. RUSH

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